



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

[Handwritten signature]

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 10/038,818 | 12/31/2001 | Robert L. Popp | KCC 4771 | 9058 |

321 7590 08/17/2006

SENNIGER POWERS
ONE METROPOLITAN SQUARE
16TH FLOOR
ST LOUIS, MO 63102

EXAMINER

REICHLE, KARIN M

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

3761

DATE MAILED: 08/17/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

| | | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------|---|---------------------|
| APPLICATION NO./ CONTROL NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR / PATENT IN REEXAMINATION | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. |
|---------------------------------|-------------|---|---------------------|

| |
|----------|
| EXAMINER |
|----------|

| | |
|----------|-------|
| ART UNIT | PAPER |
|----------|-------|

20060807

DATE MAILED:

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner for Patents

see attached communication

encl: 5-10-06 PTO-1449

K. M. Reichle
Karin M. Reichle
Primary Examiner
Art Unit: 3761


Reply Brief Noted

1. The reply brief filed 6-9-06 has been entered and considered. The application has been forwarded to the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences for decision on the appeal.

2. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Karin M. Reichle whose telephone number is (571) 272-4936. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Tanya Zalukaeva can be reached on (571) 272-1115. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.


Karin M. Reichle
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3761

KMR
August 7, 2006

KCC 4771 (K-C 17,182)
PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of Robert L. Popp et al. Art Unit 3761
Serial No. 10/038,818
Filed December 31, 2001
Confirmation No. 9058
For MECHANICAL FASTENING SYSTEM FOR AN ABSORBENT ARTICLE
Examiner Karin M. Reichle

RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER
JUN 09 2006

June 9, 2006

REPLY BRIEF

This is a reply to the Examiner's Answer mailed April 19, 2006. Appellants' reply is being filed to respond to arguments made by the Examiner for the first time in the Examiner's Answer. Particularly, appellants take this opportunity to address some of the Examiner's comments set forth in the Response to Argument section (pages 6-8) of the Examiner's Answer.

Claim 19

In the Examiner's Answer, the Examiner cites for the first time column 13, lines 28-35 and Table II of U.S. Patent No. 5,910,136 (Hetzler) in support of her rejection of claim 19. Specifically, the Examiner contends that these passages of Hetzler teach a loop component being elastically stretchable to at least 2.0 times a relaxed length in at least one of the directions. However, these portions of Hetzler are just as unsupportive of the Examiner's position as the other portions of Hetzler previously relied on by the Examiner. There is no disclosure in Hetzler, including column 13, lines 28-35 and Table II, of a loop component comprising a loop material that is 1) extensible in two directions and 2) elastically stretchable in at least one of the two directions to 2.0 times its relaxed length as recited in claim 19.

Considered
am
8-7-06